

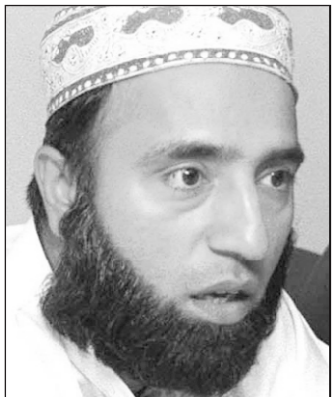
Did U Know?

More than 3050 hours of Australian Open 2000 were televised to 175 territories (up from 157 territories in 1999), making the Australian Open one of the most distributed and watched tennis tournaments in the world.

What to WATCH

- SET Max**
Sri Lanka vs Zimbabwe
Third Test, Day Four
Live at 9:30 am
- ESPN**
New Zealand v South Africa
Third ODI, Tri-series
Live from 5:00 am
Highlights at 10:00 pm
Match of the Century
Football Magazine
3:00 pm
Serie A
Highlights at 6:30 pm
- Sportscenter Hindi**
Sports News
Live at 8:30 pm
- Ipswich Town v Tottenham
English Premiership
Taped version at 12:00
- STAR Sports**
Australian Open
First Round
Live from 6:00 am
Sportsline Today
Sports News
12:00 pm & 12:30 pm
Harsha Online
Cricket Talk Show
Repeat at 1:00 pm
Australian Open
First Round
Live from 2:00 pm
Sportsline Tonight
Sports News
Live at 8:00 pm
English Premiership
Highlights at 8:30 pm

TALK TURKEY



Saeed Anwar
(Pakistan cricket star)
"I want to continue playing cricket while I can do it with dignity. I want to play in the next World Cup in South Africa."

Dismissing rumours that he would quit the game for preaching.

Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 164

Tick the Correct Answers Post to
The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm
Jan 18, 2002 and draw
shortly afterwards

1. What was Jacques Kallis' score in the MCG Test?	100	90	99
2. Michael Owen scored his 100th club goal against	Bolton	Fulham	Chelsea
3. Which football club won the Argentine Championship?	Racing	Boca	River
4. How many double century stand do Hayden and Langer have?	5	43	
5. How many batsmen have played in 100 consecutive Tests?	3	4	5
Name			
Class	Roll No.		
School Address			
Phone: (If any)			



PHOTO: STAR
Pakistan vice-captain Inzamamul Haq (L) and all-rounder Wasim Akram leave the Sheraton Hotel on way to Chittagong on Monday.

Pakistan in Ctg

Cricket

ABDULLAH -AL MAHMUD, Ctg

Pakistan cricket team arrived here yesterday to play in the second Test of the Coca-Cola Series against Bangladesh.

The visitors, who won the first Test by an innings and 178 runs at Dhaka, flew in Chittagong at around 3.45pm.

This is the second visit for Pakistan in the bustling port city 13 years after the 1988 Asia Cup.

The home team will however reach Chittagong in the morning today.

The second and final Test begins at the MA Aziz Stadium on Wednesday. It will also host the first one-day international on January 22.

The local organisers Chittagong Jila Krira Sangstha (CJKS) is all prepared to hold the international matches after successfully staging the Zimbabwe leg last November.

The CJKS at a press briefing on Monday said that all arrangements and facilities here were up to international standards.

The briefing was attended by CJKS president and the Deputy Commissioner of Chittagong Abdus Salam Khan. Besides, BCB directors Mahmud UI Huq, Mobasser Hossain, Selim Abedin Chowdhury, who is also the general secretary of

CDCA (Chittagong Divisional Cricket Association) and CJKS general secretary Shahed Asgar Chowdhury were present.

For smooth holding of the matches, the CJKS has formed 23 sub-committees including a 24-member advisory committee, 10-member patronising committee and a 68-member organising committee.

TICKET RATES

Eastern Gallery Tk 30 (per day for Test) & Tk 100 (ODI)
Western Gallery Tk 50 (per day for Test) and Tk 120 (ODI)
International Gallery Tk 100 (per day for Test) and Tk 200 (ODI)
Pavilion Tk 200 (per day for Test) and Tk 500 (ODI)

Security has also been beefed up. Twenty-five platoons of police and APBN (Armed Police Battalion) will also be deployed to ensure player's safety.

The organisers expect to earn Taka 68 lakh from the two games after a poor crowd response during the Zimbabwe matches.

There was a low turnout during the second Test and the first one-day international against Zimbabwe last November.

But with the arrival of Pakistan team the mood seems to have changed, as fans have started to gather to see the big names of

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PHOTO: STAR
Akram Khan (L), captain of the West Indies-bound Bangladesh A cricket team, standing in front of the BCB office yesterday. Also seen are Naimur Rahman (in the foreground) Ehsanul Haque (R) and Mazharul Haque.

Rafique snubs A team

Disappointment over for Naimur

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER
Left-arm spinner Mohammad Rafique has expressed his non-availability for Bangladesh A team's tour of West Indies.

The temperamental twaker, who was named in the 14-man Bangladesh A squad, ruled himself out owing to family reasons.

He has been replaced by another left-arm spinner Ahsanullah Hasan, who plays for Chittagong.

Former national captain Akram Khan will lead the A team in the first-ever cricket tour by any Bangladeshi team to the Caribbean.

Rafique was one of the five Test players included in the side that will play in the Busta Cup. The premier first-class competition of the West Indies starts on January 25 and the second string Bangladesh side will leave the country on January 19.

Rafique's decision to skip the Caribbean trip surprised many

observes who thought it would have been an ideal opportunity for him to get a Test recall.

The 31-year-old cricketer yesterday reported to coach Golam Faruque Chowdhury at the Bangabandhu National Stadium only to hand the new coach the letter that he was 'not going to tour.'

According to sources, Rafique's decision was not at all prompted by any family related emergency. Rather, he considered the trip to be 'financially detrimental' for him.

Rafique, who is not under the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB)'s pay roll, was said to be more interested in playing the domestic league and other competitions, which bring him more money.

While Rafique was insolently turning his back on national interest, former captain Naimur Rahman on the other hand, considered it an honour to represent the country even with the A team.

Naimur, who had fought his way back from disappointment to get the

nod for the A team, is treating the tour as a stage to re-launch his Test career which many thought was over when he lost his job as Bangladesh captain last November because of poor form.

"A couple of months ago, things were very disappointing for me. I could not score or take many wickets. But now I'm enjoying my cricket," said Naimur who has been in a rich vein of form for Dhaka in the Ispahani National League.

The 27-old all rounder has led the Dhaka side by example and has taken them to the top of the six-team table.

Three cricketers however failed to report at the Board's office on Monday morning because of their involvement in the National League. They are Mohammed Alamgir, Tushtar Imran and Manzarul Islam.

The A team coach said that the player contacted him over phone and will join the training at the Bangabandhu National Stadium from today.

Stuart, Trevor rescuers

Cricket

REUTERS, Galle

Stuart Carlisle and Trevor Gripper shared a 153-run record first wicket partnership as Zimbabwe avoided the follow-on in the third and final Test against Sri Lanka.

Replying to Sri Lanka's first innings of 418, Zimbabwe finished the third day at 230 for five with Grant Flower (19) and Heath Streak (29) at the crease.

The match was poised for Sri Lankan off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan, who had 395 wickets, to become the fastest and youngest bowler to take 400 Test wickets.

However Muralitharan, who bowled 47 overs on Monday and finished the day with figures of two for 66 off 53 overs, was thwarted by Carlisle (64) and Gripper's (83) stand.

The pair broke the previous highest opening partnership against Sri Lanka of 113 between Grant Flower and Mark Dekker at Harare in 1994-95.

Their stand was just 11 runs short of equalling Zimbabwe's first wicket partnership record against all countries and surpassed the 40 that Hamilton Masakadza and Gripper scored in the first Test as their best opening stand of this series.

After the opening partnership was broken by skipper Sanath Jayasuriya, who in a spell of 14 overs of left-arm spin captured three wickets for 16 runs, Zimbabwe slumped to 171 for five and were in danger of falling behind the follow-on mark of 219.

But Grant Flower and Streak then denied Sri Lanka any further success with an unbroken 59-run sixth wicket partnership.

Earlier on Gripper and Carlisle frustrated the Sri Lankan bowlers before Jayasuriya, who mixed his bowling attack, had Gripper

stumped by Kumar Sangakkara for 83 shortly before tea.

Gripper batted for 278 minutes and faced 247 balls hitting 10 fours in his knock.

Jayasuriya then struck in his next over trapping Craig Wishart lbw for one without offering a shot.

Carlisle was first out in the final session, adding just one run to his tea score of 63, when he played back to Muralitharan and was trapped in front. He batted for 326 minutes and faced 274 balls hitting four fours.

Muralitharan then struck again shortly after when he had Andy Flower caught at second slip by Hashan Tillakaratne for six.

Gavin Rennie's dubious dismissal was the final wicket to fall on a slow day's play, caught behind by

Sangakkara off Jayasuriya for seven after he pushed forward and the ball appeared to come off his front pad. Streak and Grant Flower then defended for the final 27 overs of the day to see the visitors through to 230 for five.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the third day of the third and final cricket Test between Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe at the Galle International Stadium on Monday:

SRI LANKA: First innings 418 (U Chandana 92, T Samaraweera 76, M Jayawardene 76, M Atapattu 50; D Marillier 4-101)

ZIMBABWE: First innings (over-night 18-0)
Carlisle lbw b Muralitharan 64
Gripper st S'kara b Jayasuriya 83

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BFF dares to sit idle!

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) officials are yet to contact the game's governing body FIFA over the international ban imposed on the country.

The world body isolated Bangladesh on Thursday after the government refused to reinstate the BFF's dissolved elected committee of Harun-ur Rashid.

According to sources, the local football officials were confused about their next course of action since the State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman gave them no clear directive on how the government will proceed to have the suspension lifted.

The BFF has already called off the national camp for the SAFF Championship, which was officially postponed on Monday.

The booters however came to the BFF office in the evening to collect their allowances. They said that they would soon launch a campaign to address the shameful situation.

JU cricket

Geology maul Mathematics

SPORTS REPORTER

The Geological Science of Jahangirnagar University began their inter-department cricket tournament in style, thumping down a six-wicket defeat on Mathematics at the varsity's playground yesterday.

Chasing a modest 101 in 25 overs, Geology guys raced on to score 104 in only 19.2 overs and with six wickets in hand. Alim and Rashed played the Mathematics attack, cracking 38 and 34 respectively. Rashed also played a vital role with the ball, taking two wickets for only 11 runs.

Batting first, Mathematics innings caved in with all the Geology bowlers maintaining tight line and length. Only Lenin, with 27, could show some success against the nagging attack of the victors.

Earlier, vice-chancellor of the university, Prof Jasimuddin Ahmed, inaugurated the 24-team tournament.

Gilchrist skips Thursday game

REUTERS, Sydney

Australia vice-captain Adam Gilchrist is to miss Australia's triangular series limited-overs match against New Zealand in Sydney on Thursday because of family reasons.

"After the recent birth of my son Harrison I was extremely keen to spend some time with him and (wife) Mei and I'm grateful for the chance to do just that in the midst of a busy schedule," Gilchrist said on Monday.

The withdrawal of the wicketkeeper-batsman places further pressure on the home side after their poor start to the series, losing to New Zealand by 23 runs on Friday night and to South Africa by four wickets on Sunday.

Western Australia wicketkeeper Ryan Campbell will replace Gilchrist in Thursday's match.

"When I got the call for Australia A you could have knocked me down with a feather but this is just amazing," Campbell said.



PHOTO: INTERNET
Sri Lanka wicketkeeper Kumar Sangakkara (C) and Mahela Jayawardena (L) appeal unsuccessfully for an lbw decision against Zimbabwe's Trevor Gripper during the third day's play of the third and final Test at Galle on Monday.

Sourav stays put

3 spinners, new 'keeper for India

Cricket

REUTERS/AFP, New Delhi

India on Monday picked three spinners and a new wicketkeeper for the first half of the six-match limited-overs series against England starting later this week.

Off-spinners Sarandeep Singh and Harbhajan Singh will join leggie Anil Kumble in the 14-man squad for the first three matches at Calcutta, Cuttack and Madras.

The team for the last three one-dayers will be picked after the Madras match against Nasser Hussain's tourists, chairman of selectors Chandu Borde said.

He said the squad had only been named for the first three games so that the new players could be assessed.

"We want to see the team in action and watch them play," he added. "Once they have been tested, we will decide the team for the next three games."

Uncapped Haryana wicketkeeper Ajay Ratra displaces Deep Dasgupta, who scored runs in the last two Test series against South Africa and England, but kept

wickets poorly.

The Indian team, led by Sourav Ganguly, includes star batsman Venkatsai Laxman, who missed the South Africa one-day series due to a knee injury, and new all-rounder Sanjay Bangar.

The batting has been further

strengthened by the return of left-hander Hemang Badani and middle-order batsman Dinesh Mongia.

Left-arm paceman Zaheer Khan is one of the three new-ball bowlers along with Javagal Srinath and Ajit Agarkar.



SOURAV GANGULY

Borde said three spinners had been picked to add variety to the attack.

"When we see the wicket for the matches, probably only two spinners will play," Borde said. "But we wanted to have more options."

Borde justified Ratra's selection behind the stumps, saying the 22-year-old was a "better choice for one-day cricket" than Dasgupta.

Borde said he was concerned about the batting form of Ganguly, but remained confident the Indian captain would come good in the series.

"Sourav is going through a rough patch, but he is too good a batsman to fail for long," said Borde, adding Ganguly will continue to open the batting with long-time partner Sachin Tendulkar.

SQUAD
Sourav Ganguly (captain), Sachin Tendulkar, Venkatsai Laxman, Virender Sehwag, Hemang Badani, Dinesh Mongia, Anil Kumble, Ajay Ratra (wicketkeeper), Harbhajan Singh, Sarandeep Singh, Javagal Srinath, Ajit Agarkar, Zaheer Khan, Sanjay Bangar.
Coach: John Wright.

ICC, Flemo warn ACB

Cricket

REUTERS, undated

Cricket's world governing body has written to the Australian Cricket Board (ACB) expressing concern over crowd behaviour at Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG), the ACB has said.

"That's a harsh reminder for us that the bar has lifted in terms of the standards expected of international cricket venues and if things don't improve at the MCG then it will come under increased scrutiny as a viable venue for international cricket," ACB chief executive James Sutherland said of the letter from the International Cricket Council (ICC).
More than 200 people were

ejected from the MCG during Friday night's limited-overs international match between Australia and New Zealand and Sutherland said on Saturday the ACB would consider alternative venues if the behaviour didn't improve.

However more trouble erupted in the crowd of more than 62,000 during Sunday's match between Australia and South Africa.

New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming called his players into the middle of the field on Friday night as missiles were thrown onto the ground and play was interrupted for about 10 minutes.

Further alcohol sale restrictions are to be put in place in the lower level of the Southern Stand of the MCG, where much of the rowdy behaviour began.

Fleming also has said he would lead his players from the field if the problem of missiles being thrown onto the field continued in Tuesday's game against South Africa.

"There's been too many close calls for us to accept it's part and parcel of the one-day game," Fleming said in Hobart on Monday.

"A player is going to get hurt and if it's a bottle in the head, which was close to us the other night, that's going to be serious."

"(Australia captain) Steve Waugh missed one as well, very close to his head."

"As players we don't need that, we're entertainers, not there to be targets. Zero tolerance is the way to go."

Eng can't train properly

Cricket

REUTERS/AFP, Calcutta

England's touring cricketers continued to grumble about practice facilities on their tour of India Monday, but ruled out making an official complaint to the sport's world governing body.



"We are not happy at the facilities but we are also not taking up the matter at the highest level," the squad's media manager Andrew Walpole said after another training session at the Calcutta Cricket and Football Club (CCFC) in this eastern metropolis.

"It is too trivial an issue to be taken up with the International Cricket Council," he said.

England, who began a six-match one-day series on Saturday at Calcutta's 100,000-seater Eden Gardens, arrived a week in advance to adjust to the conditions.

But the tourists have been unable to practice at the Eden Gardens, one of cricket's most famous venues, because organisers are preparing the stadium for Saturday's day-night international.

But India's cricket chief Jagmohan Dalmiya said he was confused by the complaint.

"Why are they making a fuss now?" Dalmiya, president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India, asked Reuters.

"The arrangements were known beforehand and we are sticking to the schedule. We have to accommodate 100,000 people at the Eden Gardens and arrangements are being made there. But we are still letting the England team practice there under lights on Tuesday and Friday," informed Dalmiya, who also heads the local association in Calcutta.

England coach Duncan Fletcher said on Sunday the team was frustrated because of the lack of proper arrangements at the CCFC.

"We're very frustrated because we expected better facilities," Fletcher told reporters.

"We've complained to people but we haven't got any response."

"Excuses are being given in the name of security. The Deputy Commissioner of Police told us there would be no problems if we played at the Eden Gardens but the Indian board said we'd be more secure here," he said.

PHOTO: INTERNET

England cricketers get some net practice, overlooked by a block of flats, at the Calcutta Cricket and Football Club on Monday.

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